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STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES:	BOARD OF MENTAL HEALTH AND CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROFESSIONALS–Legislative Committee
MEETING DATE AND TIME:	Wednesday, February 22, at 11:00 a.m.
PLACE:	861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware Conference Room A , second floor of the Cannon Building
MINUTES APPROVED	03/28/2012

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. William Northey, LMFT, Presiding
Daniel Cooper, LPCMH
Dr. Gregg Drevno, LPCMH

MEMBERS ABSENT

Daniel Cherneski, LMFT
Mary Davis, LCDP

DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT

Danny Stevenson, Deputy Attorney General
Jessica Williams, Administrative Specialist II

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. James Walsh, Delaware Professional Counselors Association
Faith Whittington, Delaware Professional Counselors Association
Ruth Banta, Delaware Board of Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Professionals
Robert Doyle, Delaware Board of Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Professionals
Joan McDonough, Delaware Board of Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Professionals
Lisa Ritchie, Delaware Board of Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Professionals
Elisabeth Vassas, Delaware Board of Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Professionals

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Northey called the meeting to order at 11:46 a.m.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Dr. Drevno made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cooper, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried with Ms. Davis abstaining.

Public Comment

Dr. Walsh expressed his concerns to the Committee regarding the proposed regulations for LACMH. He believes that the proposed regulations may create a disadvantage for applicants if they do not pass the NCE exam the first time, then they will be able to begin accumulating the

required experience hours. He does support the possibility that once an individual passes the NCE exam then they would apply for ACMH licensure.

Dr. Walsh requested that the Committee consider legislative changes for PCMH and ACMH licensure to allow for more flexibility. He supports proposed changes in supervision if the supervisors would be required to complete a training program prior to supervising a ACMH.

Dr. Northey advised Dr. Walsh that if the supervisor is a LPCMH, then supervision training would not be required. If a LPCMH is unavailable, the applicant would attempt to find a supervisor that is regulated by the Board, and they would be required to obtain supervision training. If an individual is unable to locate a licensed professional regulated by the Board, then they would need to request approval from the Board.

Dr. Walsh was advised that a public hearing for the proposed regulations is tentatively scheduled for April.

Ms. Whittington addressed the Board with her concerns regarding the proposed changes. She believes that individuals should not have to apply for LACMH licensure in order to obtain their required experience hours. Dr. Northey advised Ms. Whittington that the proposed changes will allow the Board to be aware of who is providing services and the supervisor will also be held accountable.

Ms. Whittington suggested that the Board allow a "grandfather provision" in regards to individuals who have begun accumulating their experience hours not having to apply for an ACMH licensure. Dr. Northey advised Ms. Whittington that the statute states that the only way an individual can account for their experience hours is after they are granted ACMH licensure. If she recommends revising the statute, she would need to approach the legislature. Ms. Whittington requested that the Board continue their current practices in regards to not having to apply for ACMH licensure in order to accumulate hours. She questioned the Committee if they had reviewed other states rules and regulations as well as statutes to see if associate licensure is required. Dr. Northey advised Ms. Whittington that many states require some type of associate level licensure.

Ms. Whittington also stated that she supports the requirements/guidelines for supervision, but does feel as though if it were passed, that it would need to be phased in slowly.

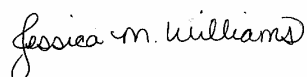
Next Meeting Date

The Committee will meet on March 28, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. in Conference Room A, 2nd floor of the Cannon Building.

Adjournment

Mr. Cooper made a motion, seconded by Dr. Drevno, to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried. There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jessica M. Williams
Administrative Specialist II